

Message Text

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01011 250603Z

10
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EB-07 ISO-00 AGR-10 /040 W
----- 010225

R 250500Z JUL 76
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO MR. L. NEIL SPENCER
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TEL AND TELEX NO. NOT KNOWN
USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3392
AMEMBASSY ATHENS 254
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 1011

STATE PLEASE RELAY THIS MESSAGE TO ALL OTHER ADDRESSEES

ATHENS FOR TRDO

TEHRAN PASS YERBY LAND, BLOUNT BROTHERS, INTERNATIONAL
(PHONE 891890)

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: BTIO, ELTN, IZ, YO, US
SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: RAILWAY LINE TO SYRIA

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PAGE 02 BAGHDA 01011 250603Z

REF: BAGHDAD A-24

1. OCTOBER 4TH IS DEADLINE FOR BIDS ON GOI PROJECT TO
CONSTRUCT RAILWAY FROM BAGHDAD UP EUPHRATES RIVER TO

SYRIAN BORDER NEAR ABU KAMEL. IRAQI RAILWAYS HAS DECLINED IN POAST TO GIVE SPECS TO USINT BUT WE WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING BECHTEL (MICHAEL SAADE) GET COPY SOME WEEKS AGO.

2. USINT COMATT WAS TOLD JULY 22 BY MR. VELIMIR BAKIC, MANAGER FOR IRAQ, OF YUGOSLAV FIRM INVEST- IMPORT, P O BOX 631, TEL. 95430, CABLE: INIMP BAGHDAD, THAT HIS COMPANY IS CONSIDERING BIDDING PROJECT AND WOULD WELCOME SOME FORM OF PARTICIPATION BY QUALIFIED US FIRMS. COMPANY'S HOME ADDRESS IS INVEST-IMPORT, TERAZIJE 5, P O BOX 680, 11001 BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA. INVEST-IMPORT HAS GOOD RECORD IN IRAQ. MORE INFORMATION ON IT IS AVAILABLE THROUGH US EMBASSY BELGRADE.

3. AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE FOUND IT UNUSUALLY DIFFICULT WIN MAJOR PROJECT CONTRACTS IN IRAQ, OFTEN BECAUSE THEIR BIDS ARE TOO HIGH. THIS, IN SOME CASES, HAS BEEN DUE UNFAMILIARITY WITH IRAQI APPROACH TO PROJECTS, LABOR AND MATERIALS COSTS, ETC. IN THESE RESPECTS US COOPERATION WITH EXPERIENCED, SUCCESSFUL YUGOSLAV FIRMS COULD LESSE RISKS ON ONE HAND AND ENHANCE CHANCES OF WINNING CONTRACT ON OTHER. USINT RECOMMENDS US FIRMS WISHING EXPLORE THIS APPROACH CONTACT MR. BAKIC DIRECTLY, INFOING BOTH AMEMBASSY BELGRADE (TELEX 11529 AMEMBA) AND USINT BAGHDAD (TELEX 2287 USINT). BOTH POSTS WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE NOTICE OF VISIT BY US EXECUTIVES TO BELGRADE OR BAGHDAD IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PROJECT.

4. USINT REGRETS INABILITY DEVELOP UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER RAILROAD PROJECTS FROM GOI SOURCES BUT WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO FIND FACTS AND RELAY TO US COMPANIES. SOME BACKGROUND ON THIS AND OTHER RAILWAY PROJECTS IN IRAQ IS GIVEN IN USINT COMATT PATRICK KILLOUCH'S 1974 STUDY 'EASTERN ARAB RAILWAYS: A MARKET RECONNAISSANCE' AVAILABLE THROUGH GEORGE BECK, COMMERCE ACTION GROUP FOR THE NEAR EAST ('-&3'), US DEPT OF UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BAGHDA 01011 250603Z

COMMERCE, WASHINGTON, D.C. (PHONE 202-967-5767).
WILEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 15 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RAILROADS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BAGHDA01011
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760286-0295
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197607109/baaaeros.tel
Line Count: 100
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: RAILWAY LINE TO SYRIA
TAGS: BTIO, ELTN, BEXP, IZ, YO, US
To: MR. L. NEIL SPENCER
MORRISON-KNUDSEN INTERNATIONAL CO., INC.
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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